

Rusk to Scan Idea of Joint ABM Screen

By United Press International

Secretary of State Dean Rusk has agreed to examine the concept of an international missile defense force that would intercept nuclear missiles launched at the United States or Russia.

Sen. Albert Gore, chairman of the Senate Disarmament subcommittee, suggested yesterday that an international agency be created and armed with anti-ballistic missiles to intercept and destroy any offensive missiles that cross the North Polar icecap.

"We welcome new ideas," Rusk said. "We need new ideas in these matters because the issues are very great. We will examine what might be done with an international force."

Rusk, who said the United States was encouraged over Soviet willingness to discuss missile disarmament, told newsmen an international ABM force could be "a dramatic increase in the functions of the United Nations."

Gore said such a system would involve a defensive line between Greenland and Kamchatka in Siberia, which he said "bisects the missile trajectory route" between the United States and Russia. President Johnson announced earlier this week that Russia has agreed to discuss with the United States possible curbs on deployment of both offensive and anti-ballistic missiles.

Russia is reported to have begun deploying an ABM system around Moscow and possibly other cities.